



PENNSYLVANIA WING — GROUP 2

OCTOBER 2008

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GROUP 2 NUMBERS:

- Senior Members : 176
- Cadets: 151
- Total Members: 327
- This information is as of 1 October 2008.

The Pennsylvania Wing Conference was held at the Holiday Inn, Harrisburg-Hershey on 26-28 September, 2008. The theme was Celebrate Team CAP, and, as the Conference website proclaimed, we were indeed quite able to Mingle, Meet, Mentor, and Munch.

After the opening ceremonies, including Color Guard by Group 2's Lebanon squadron, Lt .Col. Barry Metz gave the Safety Briefing. After summarizing the many improvements our Wing has made during the past year, he encouraged all members to take the [Basic Safety Course and Online Exam](#) now available through e-Services, and to submit suggestions on [CAPF-26. Civil Air Patrol Safety Improvement or Hazard Report](#).

Pennsylvania Wing Commander, Col. Mark Lee presented the "Year-in-Review," mentioning that we are now the 4th largest wing, and still growing. We did loose approximately 100 members due to the OPSEC test requirement after our inspection, but the 99.8% compliance with that requirement was higher than expected. The main difficulty our Wing faced regarding Safety was record keeping. Although we performed the

required safety checks and activities, they were not documented. Col. Lee also requested that a [CAPF-71, CAP Aircraft Inspection Checklist](#) be filled out after each activity as well as before, and that safety debriefings be conducted after all activities. After reporting the past year's issues and accomplishments, he informed us that Pennsylvania Wing is also planning many more senior member training opportunities during the upcoming year.

Past National Commander, Maj. Gen. Dwight Wheless spoke about several activities that CAP National Headquarters is working on, including expansion of CAP's e-learning services, improvement of our radio communications capabilities, a major refurbishing program for older CAP aircraft, and proposed changes to our legislative charter to allow CAP to contract directly with agencies other than the US Air Force for missions.

He also introduced, "Citizens Serving Communities, Above and Beyond," as a new advertising slogan to replace the previous, "More Than Meets the Skies."

There were several other speakers, Our Air Force Liaison



Lebanon VFW Cadet Squadron 307 provided the Color Guard for the conference.

outlined his duties, informed us that the Air Force can assist us in several ways, and requested that we send information on how well we are serving our communities. These success stories go a long way toward maintaining and improving our image with the Air Force.

Another speaker announced that cadets can apply for scholarships to cover the entire cost of attending the Northeast Region Conference.

After a short break, the presentations of awards and promotions rounded out the morning's program.

The afternoon was filled with workshops, seminars, round

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table discussions, and other training activities. Many of us wished we could clone ourselves in order to attend concurrent sessions.

Although the Specialty Track workshop room might have appeared chaotic, the various discussions were so captivating that no one seemed to notice anything else going on around them. In fact, Capt. Annette Carlson had some difficulty getting us to switch

around between sessions.

Most of us wanted to continue what we were doing.

Although the various activities wrapped up between 1630 and 1700, many members continued discussing various issues and interests right up to the banquet start time.

During the evening, many cadets and a few senior members took advantage of the hotel's indoor pool and hot tub until it closed at 2000.

In addition to the scheduled activities, Hawk Mountain Ranger School manned a display and even sold some search and rescue equipment in the hotel lobby.

Vanguard also ran their customary store. They also announced that they will be sending some of their profits to help fund various regional training centers, including Hawk Mountain.

1Lt Barbara McCutcheon
PAWG, Gp2, PAO



Capt. Annette Carlson manages a room full of Specialty Track workshops.

OCTOBER SAFETY BRIEFING—CAP SAFETY DOWN DAY

To help us start the new fiscal year in the right direction, Maj Gen Courter is reminding every commander to have a CAP Safety Down Day sometime during the month of October. CAPR 62-1 allows commanders pick the day to maximize flexibility and attendance. You, the members of Civil Air Patrol, should be congratulated for all your efforts in reducing Civil Air Patrol accidents this year.

So, why have a Safety Day? There are several reasons. As busy as we've been lately with Hurricane disaster relief, we need to take the time to:

- Pause and look at how we conduct business.
- Determine what our attitude is toward risk?
- Does the unit exhibit a healthy organizational culture?
- Does the unit train effectively while including safety?
- Do members interact effec-

tively?

Review past problem areas (trends) – You remember the old adage: “Those that ignore the lessons of history are doomed to repeat them in the future.”

Learn how to manage risk – Formally for CAP activities and informally in our personal lives.

Conduct a pre-emptive strike on future mishaps – This is an opportunity for us to be proactive in mishap prevention, rather than reactive. A Power-Point presentation can be found on the CAP website at:

<http://level2.cap.gov/index.cfm?nodeID=5182> Click on Presentations, then click on October Safety Down Day.

The information presented that day should cover the full spectrum of CAP activities; seniors to cadets, aviation, driving, ground teams, etc. Tailoring the presentations to the sea-

son, as well as local risks and activities is highly encouraged.

Start preparing now for your Safety Down Day and your unit members will get more from a well prepared presentation. Let's cut the mishaps in half this year!

Col Lyle E. Letteer, CAP
National Safety Officer

RED RIBBON WEEK

The Civil Air Patrol will again participate in the National Red Ribbon Week coming up on 21-29 October this year.

Red Ribbon Week was started to honor the death of Drug Enforcement Officer Enrique Camarena who was killed while working to keep drugs out of the U.S. His friends and family wore red ribbons as a symbol of their promise to continue the fight against drug abuse.

CAP INTRODUCES NEW WEBSITE

The Civil Air Patrol has announced a new recruiting website.

The site is located at <http://www.gocivilairpatrol.com> and has links, videos, and messages about CAP, our programs, and the benefits offered to members.

The practice has grown and now over 80,000,000 people across the U.S. wear red ribbons, t-shirts, stickers, or other items to symbolize their support for a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

The September-October Volunteer magazine contains a ribbon that can be used.

Source: CAP Volunteer Magazine, p10

FUND RAISING IN YOUR UNIT IS EASY!

Submitted by Marie Neese and Jett Mayhew

Fundraising for Civil Air Patrol units at all levels is just a few online clicks away, thanks to CAP's new partnership with [Fund-link](http://cap.fundlinkllc.com) to build a CAP Virtual Shopping Mall that allows users to benefit specific units in CAP. By accessing <http://cap.fundlinkllc.com>, customers can shop at more than 1,000 different stores, including some of the nation's largest retailers, such as Wal-Mart, Target, Best Buy, Home Depot and more. You can also access the site from the donations page at <http://www.gocivilairpatrol.com>. Every time a customer makes a purchase, the retailer will donate a portion of the proceeds – from 2

percent to 15 percent – to the unit the user chooses, from a local squadron to wing or region headquarters. Customers can also choose to donate directly to CAP National Headquarters. Anyone can shop from the site, and no registration or login is required. The user selects a unit from the list of beneficiaries when a store is clicked on. Donations will be sent directly to National Headquarters, along with a breakdown of squadrons and amounts. The money will then be sent to each wing on a quarterly basis for further disbursement.

"This innovative approach allows our members nationwide to support CAP locally or nationally at the same time they're making convenient, everyday purchases

online," said Don Rowland, CAP executive director. Through CAP's online mall, he said, "the organization and its members benefit – first and foremost."

With the holidays coming up why not shop on line and earn money for your unit. It's easy, affordable and profitable for your unit. Tell your neighbors, relatives and friends.

Remember the link is <http://cap.fundlinkllc.com> start now to help raise money for your unit. CAP NHQ, all Region and Wing HQs, Groups, and composite, cadet, and senior squadrons and flights are eligible. Units are updated on a quarterly basis by MDV.

CAP DDR Newsletter, Sep 08

EVERY TIME A CUSTOMER MAKES A PURCHASE, THE RETAILER WILL DONATE A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS – FROM 2 PERCENT TO 15 PERCENT – TO THE UNIT THE USER CHOOSES

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Civil Air Patrol members across the country have done great things this month to prepare themselves, their families, friends, and businesses, but it doesn't end there. We as citizens have a responsibility to help each other in emergencies and protect our homeland. Your volunteer work with Civil Air Patrol is just one way to use your talents and help your community. I encourage you to seek out additional partnerships with other groups with similar passions through Citizen Corps. Civil Air Patrol is a national affiliate with Citizen Corps, and encourages members to work hard with other affiliates and Citizen Corps councils and activities to help people prepare, train and volunteer in their communities. For more

information on how to get more involved in preparedness activities go to: <http://www.ready.gov/america/npm08/getinvolved.html>.

Civil Air Patrol takes preparedness seriously. We have developed a preparedness survey that I would like as many members as possible to take by the end of National Preparedness Month. It will allow CAP to be better able to compare our personnel to the general population of the United States and also help us develop better preparedness strategies for the future. I have taken it myself and expect it will take most members between 5 and 10 minutes to complete. The national headquarters staff will release the results later this year once they have time to compile

and compare the results. Thanks in advance for your time and efforts to better prepare CAP for the future!

Survey link: <https://ntc.cap.af.mil/ops/dynasurvey/survey/Survey2.cfm?ID=32>

Note: If you receive a site security warning when trying to access the survey, it is likely because you do not have the DoD Root Certificates installed on your computer. Most computers do not have them pre-installed. More information and directions for how to download and install the certificate are available at: <http://www.cap.af.mil/certificates.htm>.

AMY S. COURTER
Major General, CAP
National Commander

GP2 Newsletter Submission Guidelines

Articles, story ideas, and queries may be submitted to Lt McCutcheon via the chain of command or by e-mail at gistek@ptd.net. Please include "CAP GP2 News" in the e-mail subject.

Items may be submitted as formatted or unformatted text within the body of the e-mail. Images may be submitted as attached jpg or pdf format files no larger than 1000K. No other type of attachment will be opened.

For more specific guidelines, please contact Lt McCutcheon.

DOMAINS AND WEB HOSTING

This article contains some terms that may not be familiar to some of our readers. Therefore a glossary has been added and the defined terms appear in bold the first time they are used in the article.

In August we mentioned some of the internet tools available to CAP members, and September's issue covered the required and prohibited elements for a CAP **website**. Hopefully all of our Webmasters have made sure their websites conform to CAPR 110-1(E).

We also discussed some of the services available from Earthlink, including website hosting. This **web host** is ad-free, but the name must follow the format set by Earthlink.

But what if you want your website name easier to remember? Sure the Uniform Resource Locator (**URL**),

<http://home.earthlink.net/~nerpa999/> that Earthlink assigns isn't too difficult for computer whizzes, but what about the other 90% of our visitors?

To do this you must register a **domain** or **sub-domain name**. A top level domain name will cost money. Prices range between \$8 and \$30 per year. The level of service varies as well. A low cost domain name typically does not offer e-mail addresses, owner privacy, or more than very basic technical support.

Many **domain registrars** try to get you to host your website on their server, either for a fee or as an ad-supported **free-host**, but any top level domain name can be redirected to another host, and most services allow you to mask your URL so that your domain name shows in the web browser.

If you want an easy to remember website name, but don't want to pay for it, you can sign up for a sub-domain name.

Most companies that offer free sub-domains also require you to host at least your index or home page with them. You can host your other pages elsewhere and **link** to them from your home page, but the home page itself will be on their ad-supported server. This means your site will show whatever advertisements the free-hosting company wants to insert. If you decide to use a sub-domain, or any ad supported services, make sure the free-host conforms to "PG-13" or "G" protocols. Otherwise your visitors might see questionable or objectionable ads on your site.

For more information on the different webhosting options, [Free Hosting or Paid Hosting:](#)

IF YOU USE AD SUPPORTED SERVICES, MAKE SURE THE HOST CONFORMS TO "PG-13" OR "G" PROTOCOLS. OTHERWISE YOUR VISITORS MIGHT SEE QUESTIONABLE OR OBJECTIONABLE ADS ON YOUR SITE.

[The Lowdown](#) is an excellent article posted in the [TechSupportForum](#)'s Web Design and Programming section. This site also offers advice on many computer related issues.

1st Lt Barbara McCutcheon
Sqdn 304 Webmaster

GLOSSARY:

Domain Name the name that identifies an Web site. Also called a top level domain. <http://www.pagroup2.com/> is a top level domain.

Domain Registrar a company that can register domain and/or sub-domain names, and provides tools for managing those domains.

Free-host a company that provides ad-supported host services to their subscribers.

Link an image or text that can be clicked to "jump" to a new Web page or a completely different Web site. Contact links may open an e-mail message

form with the recipient, and occasionally the subject, already filled in.

Sub-domain name a website name registered through a top level domain and contains that domain name. <http://gp2.pawg.cap.gov/> is a sub-domain. The top level domain name is <http://www.cap.gov/>

URL (Uniform Resource Locator) the address of a specific Web site or file on the Internet.

Web host a company that provides the content of web pages to the computers that access it.

Web Page an individual that is translated by your Web browser.

Website a collection of Web pages.

Expanded definitions for the underlined terms can be found at <http://www.techterms.com> Expanded definitions for **Domain Registrar** and **Sub-domain name** can be found in Wikipedia. **Free host** is a term that will occasionally be used in these articles to distinguish it from fee based web hosting.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

During September, six new cadets and three new senior members joined squadrons in our group.

Cadet Ethan J. Dunlap joined the Jesse Jones Composite Squadron 304.

Cadet Christopher F. Allan joined Harrisburg International Composite Squadron 306.

Cadets Rebekah J. Reyes and Rob I. Reyes, and Senior Member Todd M. Fasnacht joined

the Capital City Composite Squadron 302.

Cadet Ashlynn A. Herr joined the Lebanon VFW Cadet Squadron 307.

Cadet Nathan R. Keefer, and Senior Members Stanley J. Little and David L. Long, Jr. joined the Black Diamond Composite Squadron

Group 2 extends a warm welcome to our new members.

MISSION SCANNER CLASS; 13 SEP 08

The following ten senior members from five Group 2 units attended last month's Mission Scanner class.

2d Lt Jamie Barrick, PA045
2d Lt Edward Barrick, PA045
Lt John Richards, PA060
SM Phil Friday, PA060
SM John Kauffman, PA060
1st Lt David Briddell, PA001
Capt Donald Inscho, PA045
Maj Brandon Parks, PA003

1st Lt Edwin Jones, PA003
1st Lt Jeffrey Case, PA003

The class was held at PA Wing Headquarters, Fort Indiantown Gap, and covered all of the Familiarization and Preparatory Training for mission scanner. Special thanks goes out to 1st Lt Case and 1st Lt Briddell for instruction the class.

[PAWG Group 2 Website](#)

CADET SCOTT LONG ATTENDING VALLEY FORGE MILITARY ACADEMY

Cadets in the Capital City Squadron may have missed one of their number recently. Cadet Scott Long has joined the Valley Forge Military Academy (VFMA).

In an e-mail last month, his mother wrote that attending VFMA has been an adjustment for him. She credits CAP with motivating him to go to the

academy, and that she was sure he would enjoy receiving letters from CAP members.

His address is:
Scott Long, Company C
VFMA
1001 Eagle Road
Wayne, PA 19087

Mrs. Long also attached some photographs of Scott at VFMA.

SQUADRON 307 ASSISTS WITH TRAFFIC CONTROL

Civil Air Patrol Squadron 307, Lebanon, Pa. was asked by Lebanon Valley College in Annville, Pa. to assist in traffic control during their annual cross country event at Fort Indiantown Gap on Sept. 6, 2008.

Assisting this event were Cadet Commander 2Lt. Patrick Roach, Cadet Master Sergeant Amber Frantz, Cadet Staff Sergeant Ben Lyon, Cadet Airman Jordan Hollinger, and Cadet Airman First Class Tyler Zoner.



Community Service is an important part of the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program.

Senior members were Major Hal Roach, commander of 307 and 1Lt. Wilson Ballester.

[Squadron 307 Website](#)

PROMOTIONS

The following group members received promotions during the month of September.

Capital City Composite Squadron: John L. Richard, promoted to 1st Lt.

Black Diamond Composite Squadron: Michael A. Bixler, promoted to C/Amn and Steven B. Bixler, promoted to 2nd Lt.

Congratulations, and thank you for all of your hard work.

With the addition of cadet promotion tracking in e-Services, it is now possible to create a list of promotions for many cadets as well as all senior members.

Since cadet promotion entry is voluntary, only those cadets whose commanders have entered cadet promotions into e-Services can be recognized through this method. We would be happy to include any additional promotion information submitted by Line Officers.



Company C assembled on the Parade Ground. Scott is in the center of the first element, but you already knew that. He's the one doing Parade Rest right!

CIVIL AIR PATROL

GROUP 2 STAFF

Commander	Lt Col Byron Marshall
Deputy Commander	Maj Brandon Parks
Aerospace Education Officer	1st Lt David Briddell
Administrative Officer	Open
Cadet Programs Officer	Maj Brandon Parks
Cadet Special Activities Officer	1st Lt Jeff Case
Chaplain.....	Open
Communications Officer	Capt Don Inscho
Communication Licensing Officer	1st Lt Carlton Walls
Finance Officer	Maj Becky Wilson
Inspector General.....	Open
Legal Officer	Open
Logistics Officer.....	Open
Maintenance Officer	Capt Daniel Sheetz
Medical Officer	Open
Operations Officer	Open
Operations, Drug Demand Reduction Officer.....	Lt Col Orville Schwanger
Operations, Emergency Services Officer	1st Lt Tim Roth
Operations, Emergency Services Officer	Maj Steve Wilson
Operations, Standardization and Evaluation Officer	Lt Col Chuck Bechtel
Personnel Officer.....	Open
Plans & Programs Officer	Open
Professional Development Officer	Open
Public Affairs Officer	1st Lt Barbara McCutcheon
Recruiting Officer	Open
Safety Officer	1st Lt Jeff Case
Safety Officer, Assistant.....	1st Lt Edwin Jones

*If you are interested in applying for any of the open staff positions, please contact Maj Brandon Parks at parks@brandonparks.com

CALENDAR

- **Squadron Leadership School:** 18-19 Oct 08: FIG
- **Group 2 Staff X (ES):** 25 Oct 08: Location TBA: IC Lt Col Bechtel
- **Hawk Mountain First Aid Weekend:** 1-2 Nov: Hawk Mountain
- **Group 2 Staff Meeting:** 8 Nov: FIG
- **Squadron Leadership School:** 15-16 Nov 08: Reading, PA
- **Group 2 SAREX:** 6 Dec 08: Location TBA: IC Lt Col Bechtel
- **Training Leaders of Cadets:** Apr 09: in conjunction with the Cadet Conference

Please send information about upcoming unit events and activities that are open to our members to Group 2 PAO, 1st Lt Barbara McCutcheon at gistek@ptd.net

